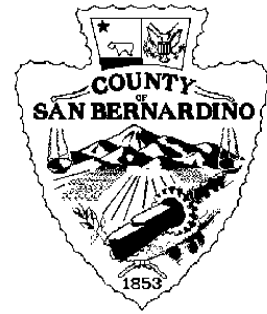


NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 3, 2003

7:30 P.M.

For more information contact
Renee Groese (909) 356-3967 or
Cindy Owens at (909) 356-3963

Safety Release

As residents return back to their mountain community homes, there are several hazards that residents need to be aware of such as:

- Winter driving conditions now exist in the mountains. Be prepared for icy roads and snow conditions. Carry chains, water, and blankets inside your vehicle. Also keep the gas tank of your vehicle as full as possible at all times.
- Rock slides, mudslides, and flooding are likely when winter weather arrives. Be prepared with extra food, water, flashlights, radios, and batteries in case you are trapped by the weather at your house.
- Debris and trees in the roadways. Debris will continue to be a problem throughout the wintertime as branches holding the weight of snow can break and block roadways.
- Trees that are burned through partially at the base, top, or branches can fall at anytime. Firefighters and tree fallers are working to drop as many trees as they can, but 100% removal may not be possible.
- As snow falls, be aware of overhead debris, such as tree limbs, or trees that may fall due to the weight of the snow.

There will be power outages in the mountain communities due to several power poles, power lines, and transmission stations that were burned in the fire. If you do see downed power lines, please call Southern California Edison at 1-800-611-1911. For other Edison related issues call Edison at 1-800-655-4555. It is highly recommended that all residents with generators **do not** connect them to residential electrical services as this may cause serious injury to residents and/or utility workers.

When returning home, do not use candles or other open flame sources for light or heat due to the inherent fire danger.

For further information, contact the Joint Information Center at (909) 381-3151 or www.calmast.org or www.sbcounty.gov.

